

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03187 232141 Z

67

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 PC-04 RSR-01 EB-11 INT-08 COME-00 /128 W

----- 012759

R 232011 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7129

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

USCINCSO

AMCONSUL CALI

AMEONCUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 3187

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CO VE

SUBJ: PRESS REACTION TO TERMINATION OF BILATERAL TALKS WITH
VENEZUELA

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

BOGOTA' S 3129

1. PRESS REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TERMINATION
OF BILATERAL TALKS WITH VENEZUELA WAS RELATIVELY LIGHT,
LIMITED TO EDITORIALS IN LIBERAL EL TIEMPO AND
CONSERVATIVE EL SIGLO AND ABRIEF COMMENT BY A COLUMNIST
IN CONSERVATIVE LA REPUBLICA. ALL COMMENT FOLLOWED
SIMILAR LINES: THE BREAK IN TALKS SIMPLY ENDED ONE
STAGE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, EACH SIDE NOW KNOWS EXACTLY
WHERE THE OTHER STANDS AND NO DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS
WAS IMPLIED OR DESIRED.

2. EL TIEMPO' S LENGTHY EDITORIAL WAS THE MOST COMPLETE.
IN ESSENCE, THE EDITOR SAID THE ONLY REAL FEAR
WAS THAT ONE DAY HOPE FOR A SETTLEMENT MIGHT BE LOST BUT
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THAT THIS IS NOT THE CASE AT PRESENT AS BOTH SIDES HAVE
STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE
TO SEEK A SOLUTION. MUCH OF THE EDITORIAL WAS DEDICATED
TO A PLEA FOR CALM. " THERE IS NOTHING DRAMATIC IN THIS
SITUATION TO RAISE THE BANNERS OF NATIONALISM...
THIS DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY FRENETIC ACTIVITY AND
NEITHER COLOMBIANS NOR VENEZUELAN SHOULD FEEL FRUSTRATED..."

3. REFERRING TO PRESIDENT TRUMANS' " UNILATERAL ACTION"
IN EXTENDING JURISDICTION OVER THE CONTINENTAL SHELF,
EL TIEMPO RECOMMENDED THAT NO UNILATERAL ACTION BE TAKEN
IN THIS CASE AS AN INDEFINITE PROLONGATION OF DIALOGUE
WOULD BE BEST. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THERE MIGHT BE OIL
IN THE GULF, THE EDITOR NEVERTHESS CONCLUDED, " WHAT REALLY
MATTERS ECONOMICALLY, POLITICALLY AND IN EVERY OTHER
SENSE, THAT WHICH MATTERS MOST IS FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN
THESE TWO PEOPLES".
SACCIO

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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